DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

COMPACT FRONT-OPERABLE IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

the specificati (check one)	on of which:
	is attached hereto.
	X was filed on <u>December 2, 2003</u> as
	Application Serial No. <u>PCT/JP2003/015439</u>
	and was amended
	(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International Application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below. I have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International Application having a filing date before that of the earliest application from which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)				Priority Claimed	
<u>Number</u>	Country	Filing Date	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
Patent Application	1(s)				
2002-351942	<u>JAPAN</u>	December 4, 2002	<u>X</u>		
2003-000036	<u>JAPAN</u>	January 6, 2003	<u>X</u>		
2003-387446	<u>JAPAN</u>	November 18, 2003	<u>X</u>		

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Attorney	Docket No.	2271/74479

Provisional Application No.	Filing Date	<u>Status</u>	
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I hereby claim the benefits und	er Title 35, United Sta	ntes Code, Section 120 of any Unite	ed State
Application(s), or Section 365(c States listed below. Insofar as th disclosed in any such prior App United States Code, Section 112 Trademark Office all informatio Code of Federal Regulations, Sec	c) of any PCT Internation of any PCT internations of the manner of the manner of the dument of the manner of the m	ntes Code, Section 120 of any Unitertional Application(s) designating the sand claims subject matter in addition provided by the first paragraph of ty to disclose to the United States Paterial to patentability as defined in the available between the filing date(s) and filing date of this application:	e Unite on to tha Title 35 stent an Title 37

And I hereby appoint

Ivan S. Kavrukov (Reg. No. 25,161); Christopher C. Dunham (Reg. No. 22,031); William E. Pelton (Reg. No. 25,702); Peter J. Phillips (Reg. No. 29,691); Wendy E. Miller (Reg. No. 35,615); Richard S. Milner (Reg. No. 33,970); Robert T. Maldonado (Reg. No. 38,232); Richard F. Jaworski (Reg. No. 33,515); and Paul Teng (Reg. No. 40,837)

and each of them, all c/o Cooper & Dunham LLP of 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York; New York 10036, my attorneys, each with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and to file any International Applications which are based thereon under the provisions of the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

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Please address all communications, and direct all telephone calls, regarding this application to:

Customer Number 23432 Cooper & Dunham, LLP 1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036 Tel. (212) 278-0400

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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